

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 NSC-07

SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 L-03 H-03 GSA-02 INT-08 FPC-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /182 W

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P R 272104Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6582

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1534

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EFIN EMIN TD GY JA ENRG

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER PERSONALLY SEEKING FINANCING FOR
ALUMINUM SMELTER

REF:POS 1351; POS 1223

1. WHEN I PRESENTED PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER'S REPLY TO THE PM'S RECENT LETTERS (SEPTELS), HE TOLD ME HE WILL DEPART TRINIDAD JUNE 30 FOR A 15-DAY TRIP TO THE US AND EUROPE (ITINERARY AND OTHER DETAILS BEING REPORTED SEPARTELY). PURPOSE OF TRIP, ACCORDING TO WILLIAMS, IS TO SEEK FINANCING FOR THE PROPOSED TRI-NATION JOINT VENTURE ALUMINUM SMELTER TO BE BUILT IN TRINIDAD (REFTELS). WILLIAMS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY FINANCE MINISTER GEORGE CHAMBERS, AND PLANS TO REPORT ON SUCCESS OF HIS TRIP TO HIS FELLOW PRIME MINISTER AT THE CARICOM PM'S MEETING TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN ST. LUCIA IN JULY.

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2. WILLIAMS DID NOT NAME ALL THE COUNTRIES HE WILL VISIT,

INDICATING ONLY THAT HE WILL ARRIVE AT FRANKFURT AND DEPART FROM PARIS. HE SAID HE HAS DISCUSSED FINANCING FOR THE SMELTER WITH SOME OPEC MEMBERS (OPEC PRESIDENT -- WHO IS ALSO IRANIAN FINANCE MINISTER -- JAMSHID AMOUZEGAR VISITED TRINIDAD BRIEFLY ON JUNE 24) AND HAD ALSO SOUGHT ASSISTANCE FROM VENEZUELA. HE INDICATED FURTHER THAT HE MIGHT TRAVEL TO CHICAGO, ENROUTE BACK TO TRINIDAD, ALSO FOR DISCUSSIONS ABOUT POSSIBLE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SMELTER PROJECT AND PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT MINISTER CHAMBERS, AS WELL AS VARIOUS GOTT EMBASSIES, WILL INVITE ALL GOVERNMENTS THAT OFFER EXPORT CREDITS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT, AS WELL AS ALL OF THE INTERNATIONAL LENDING AGENCIES.

4. WE CANNOT HELP BUT WONDER IF A VISIT TO MOSCOW MAY BE INCLUDED ON THE ITINERARY, SINCE BOTH PRIME MINISTER AND ONE OF HIS CLOSEST CABINET ADVISERS, COMMERCE MINISTER MAHABIR, HAVE SHOWN RATHER UNUSUAL INTEREST DURING PAST TWO WEEKS IN CONFIRMING DATES THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WOULD BE IN USSR.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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